



Committee On Finance

Max Baucus, Ranking Member

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Statement of U.S. Senator Max Baucus on Hurricane Katrina Relief Package

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) U.S. Senator Max Baucus, ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee, issued the following statement regarding the announcement of tax provisions designed to provide assistance to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The package was announced with Chairman Charles Grassley today. The statement follows:

“This is an overwhelming tragedy. Hurricane Katrina has displaced more than 375,000 people. They have sought refuge in shelters, hotels, homes, and with family all over the country. The nation is depending on Congress to act, and to act quickly.

“Today, Senator Grassley and I have announced a tax package that will provide immediate tax relief to help those in need get back on their feet. We want to give the proper tools to businesses that will be hiring displaced workers to create new jobs. And we want to provide those affected with access to retirement accounts for immediate cash assistance.

“Americans have been generous with efforts to assist the recovery effort. This package will continue these efforts. We propose a tax incentive to reward those who have opened up their homes to those who are looking for shelter. The package encourages charitable donations to help ease the burden on communities and states hit the hardest. We need to act quickly to reach those who need help the most.”

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